

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information storage medium comprising:

a read-in area;

a data area ~~consisting of blocks~~; and

a read-out area,

wherein the data area includes a user area and a spare area,

a defective block of ~~the blocks~~ the user area is replaced by a spare block of the spare area,

the read-in area and the read-out area include a part of DMA (defect management area) sets to be used in due order, each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set includes first, second, third, and fourth ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs to store defect management information,

the read-in area includes the first and second ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs of each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set,

the read-out area includes the third and fourth ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs of each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set,

wherein upon detection of a defect in a current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set included in the ~~defect management area~~ DMA sets, the current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set is replaced to the by a next defect management area DMA set of the current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set, the second ~~defect management area~~ DMA is the next defect management area of follows the first ~~defect management area~~ DMA, and the fourth ~~defect management area~~ DMA is the next defect management area of follows the third ~~defect management area~~ DMA.

Claims 2-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information reproduction method for reproducing information from an information storage medium including a read-in area; a data area ~~consisting of blocks~~; and a read-out area, wherein the data area includes a user area and a spare area, a defective block of ~~the blocks~~ the user area is replaced by a spare block of the spare area, the read-in area and the read-out area include a part of DMA (defect management area) sets ~~to be used~~ in due order, each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set includes first, second, third, and fourth ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs to store defect management information, the read-in area includes the first and second ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs of each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set, the read-out area includes the third and fourth ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs of each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set, wherein upon detection of a defect in a current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set included in the ~~defect management area~~ DMA sets, the current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set is replaced ~~to the by a~~ next ~~defect management area~~ DMA set of the current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set, the second ~~defect management area~~ DMA ~~is the next defect management area of~~ follows the first ~~defect management area~~ DMA, and the fourth ~~defect management area~~ DMA ~~is the next defect management area of~~ follows the third ~~defect management area~~ DMA, said method comprising:

reading latest defect management information from the current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set.

Claims 13-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An information recording method for recording information on an information storage medium including a read-in area; a data area ~~consisting of blocks~~; and a read-out area, wherein the data area includes a user area and a spare area, a defective block of ~~the blocks~~ the user area is replaced by a spare block of the spare area, the read-in area and the read-out area include a part of DMA (defect management area) sets ~~to be used in due order, each defect management area~~ DMA set includes first, second, third, and fourth ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs to store defect management information, the read-in area includes the first and second ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs of each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set, the read-out area includes the third and fourth ~~defect management areas~~ DMAs of each ~~defect management area~~ DMA set, wherein upon detection of a defect in a ~~current defect management area set included in the defect management area sets, the current defect management area set is replaced to the next defect management area set of the current defect management area set, the second defect management area~~ DMA is the next ~~defect management area of follows~~ the first ~~defect management area~~ DMA, and the fourth ~~defect management area~~ DMA is the next ~~defect management area of follows~~ the third ~~defect management area~~ DMA, said method comprising:

detecting the a defect in the a current defect management area DMA set included in the DMA sets; and

replacing the current DMA set with the a next defect management area DMA set of the current DMA set upon ~~the~~ detection of the defect in the current ~~defect management area~~ DMA set.

Claims 18-22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (New): An information storage medium comprising:

a read-in area;

a data area; and

a read-out area,

wherein the data area includes a user area and a spare area,

a defective block of the user area is replaced by a spare block of the spare area,

the read-in area and the read-out area include a part of first and second DMA (defect management area) sets used in due order, each first and second DMA set includes first, second, third, and fourth DMAs to store defect management information,

the read-in area includes the first and second DMAs of each first and second DMA set, a first reserved area located between the first and second DMAs of each first and second DMA set, and a second reserved area located between the second DMA of the first DMA set and the first DMA of the second DMA set,

the read-out area includes the third and fourth DMAs of each first and second DMA set, a third reserved area located between the third and fourth DMAs of each first and second DMA set, and a fourth reserved area located between the fourth DMA of the first DMA set and the third DMA of the second DMA set,

wherein upon detection of a defect in a current DMA set corresponding to the first DMA set, the current DMA set is replaced by a next DMA set corresponding to the second DMA set, the second DMA of each first and second DMA set follows the first DMA of each first and second DMA set, and the fourth DMA of each first and second DMA set follows the third DMA of each first and second DMA set.

Claim 24 (New): An information reproduction method of reproducing information from an information storage medium including: a read-in area; a data area; and a read-out area, wherein the data area includes a user area and a spare area, a defective block of the user area is replaced by a spare block of the spare area, the read-in area and the read-out area include a part of first and second DMA (defect management area) sets used in due order, each first and second DMA set includes first, second, third, and fourth DMAs to store defect management information, the read-in area includes the first and second DMAs of each first and second DMA set, a first reserved area located between the first and second DMAs of each first and second DMA set, and a second reserved area located between the second DMA of the first DMA set and the first DMA of the second DMA set, the read-out area includes the third and fourth DMAs of each first and second DMA set, a third reserved area located between the third and fourth DMAs of each first and second DMA set, and a fourth reserved area located between the fourth DMA of the first DMA set and the third DMA of the second DMA set, wherein upon detection of a defect in a current DMA set corresponding to the first DMA set, the current DMA set is replaced by a next DMA set corresponding to the second DMA set, the second DMA of each first and second DMA set follows the first DMA of each first and second DMA set, and the fourth DMA of each first and second DMA set follows the third DMA of each first and second DMA set, said method comprising:

reading latest defect management information from the current DMA set.

Claim 25 (New): An information recording method for recording information on an information storage medium including a read-in area; a data area; and a read-out area, wherein the data area includes a user area and a spare area, a defective block of the user area is replaced by a spare block of the spare area, the read-in area and the read-out area include a

part of first and second DMA (defect management area) sets used in due order, each first and second DMA set includes first, second, third, and fourth DMAs to store defect management information, the read-in area includes the first and second DMAs of each first and second DMA set, a first reserved area located between the first and second DMAs of each first and second DMA set, and a second reserved area located between the second DMA of the first DMA set and the first DMA of the second DMA set, the read-out area includes the third and fourth DMAs of each first and second DMA set, a third reserved area located between the third and fourth DMAs of each first and second DMA set, and a fourth reserved area located between the fourth DMA of the first DMA set and the third DMA of the second DMA set, the second DMA of each first and second DMA set follows the first DMA of each first and second DMA set, and the fourth DMA of each first and second DMA set follows the third DMA of each first and second DMA set, said method comprising:

detecting a defect in a current DMA set, and

replacing the current DMA set with a next DMA set upon detection of the defect in the current DMA set,

wherein the current DMA set corresponds to the first DMA set, and

the next DMA set corresponds to the second DMA set.